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No Blarney: Green Beer and Driving Don't Mix

(SACRAMENTO) As part of the California Highway Patrol's (CHP) continuing efforts to curb drunk driving, extra officers will be on the lookout for impaired drivers this weekend. Additional patrols with officers working overtime are funded by grants from the state Office of Traffic Safety and The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

The message is very simple, party responsibly; plan to have a designated driver if you expect to be consuming alcohol as part of your celebrating.

"All we are asking is for people to do the responsible thing; plan ahead," said CHP Commissioner Joe Farrow. "Have someone who won't be drinking do the driving, take public transportation or make plans to spend the night where you are celebrating."

Last year during St. Patrick's Day weekend 16 people were killed and 304 injured in DUI involved collisions statewide. A total of 1,250 drivers were arrested for DUI by the CHP.

"This is about saving lives, not about how many people we can arrest," said Commissioner Farrow. "Do your part. Don't drink and drive."

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